

CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE

EDITORIAL BOARD

MRS. FREDERIC SCHOFF

MRS. JOSEPH P. MUMFORD

MRS. HOWARD W. LIPPINCOTT

MRS. MARY C. C. BRADFORD

MISS ELIZABETH HARRISON

Vol. XI.

DECEMBER, 1916

No. 4

President's Desk

Christmas day must ever recall the day 1916 years ago when the Saviour was born in Bethlehem. His mission on earth was to show the possibilities of humanity, to emphasize time after time the possibilities of childhood, to show in all how to live, how to meet trials and temptations, how to meet reviling and persecution and from each trial go steadily on doing the Master's work.

Christmas Greeting to Lovers of Children Everywhere

He came into a world steeped in sin and iniquity. Even after nineteen centuries the powers of evil seem to have the upper hand, when so much of the world is in the throes of war. Yet all the world dates time from the birth of the Babe of Bethlehem and so unconsciously does Him homage.

In the spirit of Him who said, "Unless ye become as a little child ye cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven," may this Christmas day be consecrated anew to the service of His little ones.

May the organized motherhood of our great country as a unit march forward, each one doing her part, to "Suffer the little children to come unto Him." Beyond the conflict, above the strife, God rules the Universe.

The lessons of the Christ life are the inspiration we all need in renewed effort for the children of today.

Blessed are the lives which give themselves to service to childhood, remembering ever that the highest service is to give to children the inspiration of the Babe of Bethlehem, of the Boy who said "Wist ye not I must be about my Father's business,"—of the manhood life of the Saviour of Men.

The Texas Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations met in Beaumont for its eighth annual convention, October 31 to November 5. The program was in charge of Mrs. Chalmers Hutchison, of Fort Worth, second president of the Texas Congress. Mrs. F. W. McAllister, of San Antonio, the president, is a leader of rare ability, who has been interested in the congress since its organization in 1897—using it for her own problems as a mother. Under her leadership the congress has, during the last two years, doubled its membership. Although Beaumont is in the extreme eastern part of the state, delegates were present from most of the principal towns of Texas.

The topics of leading interest were county extension work, coöperation with state board of health in measures for education of mothers in infant hygiene, promotion of legislation for mothers' pension, and kindergartens, and establishment of school savings banks in public schools to encourage habits of thrift in children.

A Tour through Texas

A significant feature of the interest men are taking in the work was the luncheon given by the Rotary Club to the congress, the topic being "What the Fathers of Beaumont are doing for Child-Welfare." The opportunity to learn more of the methods recommended by the national board through the presence of the national president seemed to be appreciated.

Texas has done splendid work, but with little or no personal acquaintance with most of the national officers. Enthusiastic invitations were given to the national president to visit many Texas towns, but limit of time made it impossible to accept all.

Houston, San Antonio, Austin, Gainesville, Denton, Dallas, Fort Worth and El Paso were included in the tour arranged by Mrs. Hutchison. In each place, able, earnest women are allied in the work, and in each place the superintendents of schools, and teachers joined in the conferences. The active support of State Superintendent Doughty, Mrs. Doughty and Dr. Caswell Ellis, of the State University, and of Dr. Davis, State Department of Health, has allied the congress with the agencies that most valuable in promotion of child-welfare.

Texas is an empire in itself, being many times larger than any state in the Union. It is a state of great undeveloped possibilities. Its oil wells, natural gas, salt deposits, cotton and rice fields, smelting and mining interests, and stock yards indicate the business opportunities.

Its climate, ranging from tropical with palms and orange groves of southern Texas to the high tablelands and mountain of western Texas, where sage bush and cactus flourish, gives every variety.

The greatest asset, however, for the future greatness of Texas is the remarkable provision for education of all the people.

The schools of Texas are for all the people, not for children only. In Houston, between the work of the Public Welfare Board with Mr. Turner as director and the work of Superintendent Horn in coöperation

**Educational Work
in Texas**

with Parent-Teacher Associations, child-welfare and the welfare of all the people is studied and promoted. Americanizing the foreigner goes on every evening, when large classes of Mexican men are learning English, and with it the customs of the United States. Every evening the men and women of a dozen other nationalities are receiving similar instruction. Houston boasts the oldest school girl in America in the person of a negro woman eighty-four years old, who, with others of her race, is learning to read. Domestic Science, manual training and swimming pools are part of the school equipment.

The State University at Austin, equally determined to give the youth of today their opportunity, has built cheap wooden buildings to house many of the classes, spending it money on professors in preference to buildings. It has prepared study courses for parents, and in the extension work is ever ready to meet the educational demands of the Texas Congress.

Texas College of Industrial Arts at Denton offers a free college course to Texas girls, including household arts, the care of infants, as well as the so-called cultural studies. Over a thousand girls have availed themselves of this splendid educational opportunity.

For thirty-six dollars a year it is estimated that any girl may provide herself with suitable clothing. In the very practical suggestive course on dress, the girls learn what is artistic and tasteful and what is appropriate for different occasions, as well as how to make their own garments.

A Columbia University graduate ably manages the purchase of food supplies and arranges the meals in scientific plan, which is at the same time appetizing and abundant. Over 200 girls were turned away this year for lack of dormitories.

There is a special home-makers' course of one year for those who cannot take the four-year course.

There is no institution in the state in which the Texas Congress feels a deeper interest.

In addition to these colleges there are many others in different parts of the state, indicating the general high estimate of the value of education.

Mississippi, with the State College for Girls at Columbus, South Carolina with Winthrop College for Girls, Florida with its State College, and Texas with the College of Industrial Arts are giving to young women free opportunities greater than are afforded in older states.

Many thousand homes will celebrate Christmas day without dear ones who are serving in the National Guard on the Mexican border. Every mother whose son is there is interested to know the conditions, and what she can do to make the life brighter. After visiting some of the larger and smaller camps in Texas, and going from one end of the state to the other, one gains a better idea of what the life must be for months at a time to those who enlisted for emergency only.

The government has done much to make the camps sanitary, and to see that the food supply is good. The percentage of men on the sick list is very small.

The permanent camps of the regular army are provided with good houses for the officers and barracks for the men, but the National Guard is provided with tents only. To guard thousands of miles of the border, the Guard is separated into many small companies which are stationed in lonely desolate places. The camps near the cities give greater opportunity for the ordinary comforts of life, for touch with others.

The Y. M. C. A. is doing much for the boys physically and spiritually. The university clubs have made all college boys welcome. The W. C. T. U. has for thirty years maintained a soldiers' and sailors' department, of which Mrs. W. F. Thacher is the national chairman.

Yet with all that is done, it is not possible to give to all the personal interest which each boy needs. The good people living on the border are unable to touch even the fringe of what should be done, because the numbers of the Guard are so great.

What can home folks do to help? First of all, they can see that home-papers are sent daily. Second, they can by a little effort arrange to have a letter from some member of the family or a friend go every day if possible, so that the feeling may not come that home folks have forgotten.

Third, and perhaps as important as anything else, they can hold out the welcome home after service even though through that service the positions formerly held are no longer open. Many boys, having lost what they had, take what they can get where they are. Many enlist because nothing else offers. Others are unsettled and wander about because nothing seems to call them home. The knitting of home ties with strong cords is one of the greatest opportunities of home-folks.

Fourth, stationery and postage stamps and a good fountain pen with ink encourage letter writing, which at best is not easy in a tent as stretched on the ground, and where, as with so many, writing seems to be a task.

Fifth, remember that the National Guard have given not only their time and their lives for the protection of all the home folks, but that they have in countless numbers sacrificed their business future, and that home folks owe to them an expression of appreciation at least.

Sixth, to the officers who have prevented many of the temptations that beset army life every mother and father owes a debt of gratitude. At Camp Stewart, near El Paso, where men attempted to establish liquor saloons near

The Boys on the
Border

the camp, General Clement stationed a sentry there with orders to let no one enter; many a boy who never tasted liquor at home, through the loneliness and homesickness of guard duty forms the habit if the temptation is set before him. Expression of appreciation helps even the officers.

Eighth, every mother who has a son in the National Guard will surely see that he has a Christmas box. There are many boys there who have no mother to remember them. Ask the boys who have mothers to send the names of those who have not, and see that each one has a personal greeting on Christmas day, a message that shows that somebody cares for them—if only a Christmas card.

Every state in the Union has Guards on the border. The National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations cannot forget that mothers have an opportunity to show their regard and appreciation for the service. The Congress of Mothers could render genuine service of a high order were it to follow the example of the Y. M. C. A. by establishing near every large camp Mother's Headquarters, where mother influence and personal interest could do so much to encourage the homesick, and take to those so far away from home, the mother love and influence which every boy needs. It is the flower of America's youth, its boys who by thousands are there.

The National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations welcomes the great state of Wyoming into the large group of states which have organized branches of the Congress. Mrs. B. H. Hamilton, of Greyhull, was appointed state organizer several years ago, and has worked wisely and steadily in preparing the way for the formation of the Wyoming State branch of the Congress.

Her work is appreciated and will prove of immeasurable value to the state. Wyoming now takes the place of Maine, which was, until now, the newest organized state. What other state will next hold the honor?

It is not possible for many members of the Congress to meet and know the officers of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations or the officers of the State branches. Their only message and means of communication come through the official organ, CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE. Without it they would have no knowledge of the large organization of which they are members. From many circles messages of appreciation encourage the editors. One message from a state on the Pacific coast says: "The magazine is our inspiration. Five of us take it, and we loan it to others. It has been our great help in committee work and programs." Another subscriber says: "The State News often reminds me of some fairy tale because it tells the story of such wonderful activities and accomplishments."

What Child-Welfare Magazine Does for Circles and Parent-Teacher Associations

The Christmas Tree

Now light the wonderful Christmas Tree!
Its splendor glitters fair.
A dream of childhood's days will rise
And banish pain and care.
For tho' many hopes and longings have fled
And sorrow and grief have stood watch by our bed:
To-night, we will like children be
In the radiant light of the Christmas Tree.

The sparkling lights of the Christmas Tree
Shed radiance sweet and bright.
A dream of long forgotten days
Lights up the anxious night.
And in the glory of trembling rays
The faces of friends of by-gone days
Appear—and tear-blind you will not see
The radiant light of the Christmas Tree.

Christmas Shopping

E. H. T.

In the buying of Christmas presents we have an exceptional opportunity of training children in the realization of the value of money, and several other excellent qualities as well, namely thoughtfulness, responsibility and initiative.

If a child has earned or saved his money to spend on Christmas presents, so much the better. If not, as it is too late to do so now, give him, and give him promptly, a definite sum—anything from twenty-five cents to a dollar or two—according to what you think proper and can afford. Let him then make a list of the people to whom he wishes to give presents, and exactly what he can afford to spend on each. If presents have been made, or yet can be made, again so much the better, for besides the loving thought which goes to the making, there is a realization even for the youngest of the commercial value of honest toil. If a really handsome and valuable present such as a shaving ball, a book mark, or a decorative blotter, which would cost at the very least five or ten cents downtown, can be made for a penny or two plus an hour or two of work, it is easily understood that that hour or two of work is well worth while.

After making the list, let the child go shopping—alone if old enough, if not, accompanied by the mother, who is to make as few suggestions as possible. Let him buy the presents, bring them home, wrap and tie them alone, or with the least possible assistance, and at the proper time deliver them in person.

Just a word here as to this shopping. Some very self-reliant children go down to the stores alone as young

as nine or ten years of age, but at this time of the year, when the stores are crowded and it gets dark early, no little child or young girl should be allowed downtown alone except on Saturday morning or immediately after the midday meal, and should leave the shopping district by four or four thirty at the latest.

In giving the child money for Christmas presents, if possible give him five cents for a roll of white tissue paper; another five cents for five yards of red ribbon; another nickel for decorative tags to write the names on, and by making an extra effort yet another for Christmas seals—if there are several children in the family these treasures may be shared.

Let the children make these purchases themselves also; then show them how to tie up a really pretty and artistic package, and their joy will be increased a thousand fold.

Any mother who pursues the above plan for Christmas shopping will see that aside from developing in the children a knowledge of the value of money and the qualities of initiative and responsibility, they are giving them the greatest possible amount of happiness. Any one who thoughtfully observes the keen interest and enthusiasm of children preparing Christmas presents for others, an interest which lasts for weeks and often outweighs the pleasure they get from the presents they receive, and who will remember the good qualities they are developing as well as the happiness they are deriving, will realize fully how true to human nature is the old saying:

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Wanted: A Mother

By M. L. KENNEDY

On the opening day of school a lonely little boy wandered in among the throng of mothers and children which crowded the hall of the big red brick building on Park Street. He hesitated at the foot of the stone steps as if half frightened by the babble of voices and the sight of so many strange people, and then, clutching more tightly the big red tablet under his arm, he doffed his little straw hat and marched staunchly up the stairs.

In the hall he stood still, patiently waiting for some one to come to him. A little girl, clinging to her mother's hand, turned to eye him inquisitively; a jolly, freckle-faced urchin made an impudent grimace as he passed, but aside from these two no one noticed the little boy. Teachers brushed by, unaware of his presence. Once the principal turned in his direction. His heart thumped and he shrank close to the wall. Her spectacles were glaring at his small figure. But no—she had not really seen him for she darted back to her own room. He hoped she would not come out again.

When he thought it must be about noon a lady with a sweet face and a soft voice discovered him standing there.

"Have you lost your mother?" she asked.

He tried to speak but his voice eluded him; it always did when he thought of his mother, so for answer he handed her the precious big red tablet.

With quick thought she turned back the cover and read:

Danny Lane,
259 Dumbarton Ave.,
Age eight years.
Father—John Lane, Clerk.
Grade—second.

Smiling kindly she held out her hand.

"Come Danny," she said. "Here is the second grade."

Danny slipped into the seat to which she pointed. Mothers were sitting on chairs and benches along

the side of the room but they were too engrossed in their own darlings to notice Danny. So Danny watched them and the children. In front of Danny, a boy was crying because he could not stay with his mother. Danny's mouth looked a trifle scornful at this exhibition of babyishness.

Presently it was time for the mothers to leave. Danny saw the smiles, the little caresses, the waving of hands from the doorway. He sat alone, apart. He was one among many, and yet he was different. He had no mother. No one would watch for his return with eager eyes and outstretched arms. A little lump bobbed up into his throat and threatened to make a baby of him. It would have had the better of him if he had not swallowed hard and pressed his lips so firmly together.

"Danny Lane!" The teacher was speaking to him. All the other children were standing up. Flushing hotly, Danny struggled to his feet. After that painful experience he listened carefully to all that was said. Nevertheless when it was time to go home, in his intense desire to do the right thing, he stepped into the wrong place in line. It was the freckle-faced boy who roughly shoved Danny back before the teacher had seen.

Solemnly the line filed down the steps and out onto the sidewalk. Then there was a wild yell of freedom. Danny turned quickly toward home, glad to escape unnoticed. But it was not to be. The freckle-faced boy had Danny on his mind.

"Hi there! Wake up, sleepy," he taunted.

The others jeered.

Danny's little jaw squared and his fist clenched, as he walked. Otherwise he appeared not to have heard. Freckle-face saw something more interesting down the street. With a parting smirk, he ran off.

A week of school dragged slowly by. It was becoming a little less lonely.

Monday morning Danny walked to school in front of two second-grade girls. Parts of their conversation floated forward to him.

"Don't you hate Mondays?" asked one. "I do, 'cause we always talk about teeth and hair, and finger nails."

Danny pondered over this bit of information. He wondered what there was to hate.

Time told! After opening exercises that morning came a period of inspection of hair and finger nails. Danny was torn between a desire to hide his black-rimmed fingers and his habit of obedience. Obedience won and he meekly spread his hands on his desk.

When his turn came he gazed anxiously up at the teacher as he half-whispered: "I'll have 'em clean tomorrow."

The teacher's disapproving look vanished at Danny's childish promise.

At noon when Danny reached the cheap boarding-house where he lived, the cook gave him a bowl of soup and some bread and told him to run along. She need not have warned him. He never put himself in the way of the people in the house. He shrank from the widow who kept the boarders. She looked so sad and dreary in her black dress; he did not know that it was the loss of a little boy which made her sad. It was not exactly that he was afraid of her but she never smiled and it gave him a sorry feeling to be near her. Sometimes he wished she would smile, because then she would be like his mother, he thought.

During the evening Danny spent much energy on his nails. He scrubbed until it became painful. His last thought before he fell asleep at night was that he would scrub some more in the morning. Then it seemed to him that a lady—yes, the boarding-house lady, only she was smiling now—took him on her lap and wrought a miracle with his grimy hands.

When he awakened his father was gone, but Danny was accustomed to dressing himself. This morning he

was most painstaking. He slicked his hair down so that it was as straight as the freckle-faced boy's. In so doing the strain on one particular button, located on the left side at the waist line, was too great. The button flew half way across the room. Danny bridged the gap between his blouse and trousers with a pin, and then stealing one last admiring glance at his plastered hair, set out for school.

The teacher gave Danny's hands a smile of approval that morning. Before she passed on, however, she whispered in his ear: "Ask your mother to please sew your button on when you go home. Then you'll be a neat-looking boy."

A faint sound of mirth reached Danny's ear. The freckle-faced boy was pointing a derisive finger at Danny's left side. The treacherous pin had slipped out and a narrow expanse of white skin gleamed through the breach. The teacher quickly supplied a safety-pin.

Danny was so overcome by his emotions that he could do nothing except make mistakes the rest of the day. Fierce anger toward the freckle-faced boy raged in his breast. Beneath that was disappointment over his failure to fulfill the teacher's ideal of neatness. He felt no resentment toward the teacher, for she did not know that he had no mother to help him. While Danny's heart was being torn by his feelings, the teacher was wondering what had happened to make him act so stupid.

When Mr. Lane was reading that evening Danny came to his knee.

"Daddy," he began, "can you sew a button on? Teacher said ask my mother to do it, because I am not a neat boy with buttons off. I guess, Daddy, she wouldn't know how hard it was being neat without a mother."

Danny didn't see his father wince, and being a little boy he was easily soothed by his father's assurances. After Danny lay happily slumbering the father clumsily sewed on the wayward button. Then he drew up the holes in Danny's little stocking. It was a crude attempt but it might

pass muster and he wanted to save Danny's feelings. He, too, was proud.

Intense excitement swept over the school next day. All other interests were forgotten in the one thrilling topic. There was to be a Mother's Day, at which time the children were to give an entertainment. Of course all of the mothers were to be invited and the children were to carry the invitations. So eager were they that the teacher found their attention that day a will-o'-the-wisp which she vainly sought.

The dismissal bell rang and the teacher took from her desk a stack of neat white envelopes each one addressed to a mother. When Danny's turn came he seemed preoccupied.

"Danny, here is your mother's invitation," reminded the teacher and she held out to him a small envelope on which was written: "Mrs. John Lane."

Slowly Danny went toward her. He reached for the envelope but he did not look at her. His cheeks were very bright as he took his place in line.

"Strangely sensitive child," thought the teacher.

The little white envelope was hidden away in Danny's blouse pocket. It weighed on his heart. If for a time he forgot, soon back to his brains surged the thought: "I ain't got any mother to give it to and I ain't anyone to go to the entertainment with me." He seriously considered running away on the day. Then no one would know.

In the days which followed the school seemed a changed place. The whole-hearted spirit of play was gone from the yards. Some few dallied at tetherball or lingered in the swings, but the majority stood in groups, talking eagerly. Excited chatter took the place of the yells and laughter of play.

At recess on the day before the glorious and wonderful day Danny was beckoned to by one of a group of second-grade boys of which the freckle-faced boy was the center.

"Is your mother comin' tomorrow?" piped the youngster.

Danny hesitated. He did not want

them to know. It was easy to say "I don't know" and hard to say "No." The words were out before he had quite thought.

"Whoopee," whistled the freckle-faced boy. "That ain't so. He ain't got any mother."

It was not the heartlessness of the thrust which roused Danny, nor yet the memory of other thrusts. That he should be thus humiliated before the others was more than his pride could bear. He drew back one fist and landed a sounding blow on the freckle-faced boy's chin. The group was surprised into silence and Freckles seemed paralyzed by the sight of Danny, the inoffensive, transformed into a fighting fury.

At the psychological moment the principal appeared in the doorway. The group scuttled down into the basement. Danny slipped out of the gate and tore home. The reaction from the tumult was too great. He threw himself onto the bed and sobbed out all the hurts, all the longing, of his lonely little heart.

The boarding-house lady passing the door heard a sound and turned back. As she glanced at the bed her breath caught. It seemed her own little boy who lay there, with his bright curls all disheveled. Then came the pang of reality. It was only Danny, but he was in trouble.

Quickly she slipped an arm around the limp little figure and drew him to her lap.

"What is the matter, dear? Tell me," she coaxed.

For a time, Danny could only sob. When he was soothed and quieted by her voice he confided his troubles.

"I ain't got any mother to come to the Mother's Day tomorrow and I told a lie about it and (the last words were a pitiful cry) I want my mother."

Danny's sad lady said nothing for a time, being too utterly sad. She was convicted of the crime of carelessness. How could she be so engrossed in her own sorrows that she could let a little child hunger just for love? The stirring of the child recalled her. This

was not the time for regret but the moment of atonement. Her arms tightened round Danny and she drew him close.

"I need a little boy," she whispered.

As Danny gazed up her face was radiant with the smile which he had

missed—the most wonderful of all smiles.

He gently touched her cheek with his small rough hand. "Mamma, mamma," he cried and his childish voice quivered with the joy of her smile.

Department of Child-Welfare Increase Campaign

Edited by MRS. MARY GRINNELL MEARS and MRS. CLARA PORTER COLTON

A MESSAGE

The seventeenth of February, 1917, celebrated as Child-Welfare Day as well as Founders' Day of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, is rapidly approaching. At that time, the double-decennial anniversary, it is hoped that many circles and associations will be able to report a doubling of all resources—a doubling of membership; a doubling of contributions; a doubling of subscriptions to the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE; a doubling of enthusiasm and of efforts for the promotion of all the various phases of the work.

Much interest is being manifested, giving promise of still richer results for the betterment of children.

Suggestions for ways of working and for programs for the fitting celebration of the twentieth birthday of the work are being prepared.

Pocket-book Philosophy or the Moving Power of Money

The treasury of a nation supplies the "sinews of war." The Child-Welfare Campaign is a peaceful propaganda for progress. Money is used for constructive work, for the conservation and building-up of a better generation of children. Officers of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations do not receive salaries; theirs is a labor of love, augmented in not a few cases by generous gifts besides the supplying of means for advancement of the work. The wonder is that so much has been done with the resources at hand. The helpful spirit of the whole constituency of the Congress of Mothers is worth more than dollars and cents; but these are essential for the forwarding of any good enterprise.

The gift of one dollar spread through a year is only a third of a cent a day; and if this were given by each of the 100,000 members of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations it would enlarge

the work most beneficently. The far-reaching and fundamental-helpfulness of Child Welfare is so clearly shown in the rich results already attained, that the saving of many more thousands of children and the betterment of hundreds of thousands is assured if only the financial means can be provided. Deciding upon a definite contribution is always a stimulus for giving either by individual members or for the offering of an organization. Some may like to give as many pennies or as many dimes or dollars as they are years old. A gold or silver thank offering for the health and happiness of each child in one's own home would be a fitting gift for Child Welfare for the many boys and girls who do not know the real meaning of "home."

Other Appropriate Gifts

- \$2—in honor of the two founders of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.
- \$4—as a reminder of the four great forces through which child betterment is attained.
- \$20—in recognition of twenty years of successful service of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations in its Child-Welfare work.
- \$100—in token of its one hundred thousand members.

The Lincoln Penny Plan

As a special method of saving money for the Anniversary Increase Campaign why not set aside all Lincoln pennies to be presented on Child-Welfare Day, February seventeenth? Let the boys and girls help; get the whole family interested; tactfully invite visitors to add to the store of coppers in the Log Cabin bank which should be kept in plain sight. Ask for change in Lincoln pennies, explaining the use to be made of them, thus scattering seeds of information about Child-Welfare work.

Surely Lincoln, the great humanitarian, who so revered his mother, Lincoln the tender-hearted lover of children, whose early poverty and later conquests in life lend a significance to the best use of small things and of humble means of help, surely he is

appropriately honored by the saving of coins bearing his image, for the well-being and betterment of childhood.

The fact that Lincoln's birth month is February adds interest to this plan for Child-Welfare Day, February seventeenth.

National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations Department of Obstetrics

DR. MARY SHERWOOD, Chairman,
The Arundel, Baltimore, Md.

PLAN OF WORK FOR STATE AND LOCAL CHAIRMEN APPROVED BY NATIONAL BOARD

No work is of greater importance to women than the universal maintenance of a high standard of obstetrical service for all mothers. Needless deaths of mothers and children are far too numerous.

Every state president is urged to appoint an able chairman as promptly as possible. Every local association can aid by appointing a chairman. All names should be sent to Dr. Sherwood.

I should like to make the work of the committee a campaign for Better Obstetrics in America. Since it is admitted that reform must be brought about by the demand of women for better conditions our campaign must be primarily one of education. Lay women must inform themselves of the facts and so convince themselves of the need for reform. I would therefore suggest the following method for beginning our work.

First: A Study of Present Conditions of Obstetrical Practice.—Method: Have members of the committee or of sub-committees obtain the facts in their various localities and report to the chairman on the following points:

What proportion of confinements in your city (town, county) are attended by physicians? By midwives?

How many beds in your hospitals are available for confinement cases? Compare

number of beds for medical and surgical cases.

Is there any organization in your locality which gives prenatal care or instruction to prospective mothers?

Is there any organized effort to secure suitable care for needy women in confinement?

Are any public funds appropriated for such care?

Second: A Publicity Campaign.—Method: Have a "Safety First for Mothers" column bi-weekly or monthly in the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE and other organs, consisting of short articles written by those qualified to discuss the requisites of the best care for mothers, reasons for giving such care, results to mother and baby of good care, what different communities are doing to furnish such care, etc. Obstetricians, social workers, nurses and mothers would be called upon to write these articles and the material would be carefully edited by the chairman and a suitable small sub-committee. This would be, in my estimation, the best method to arouse widespread interest in this big question and to put correct information before the public.

Small leaflets might also be distributed. The very excellent pamphlets issued by the Children's Bureau might also be used in our propaganda.

Wise Mothers

By MRS. G. W. TUTTLE

THE MOTHER WHO SAYS "PLEASE"

The wise mother requests rather than commands. She says, "Will you please go," instead of "You must go." She understands human nature. She remembers her own youth. She sympathizes with the child who does not want to go on the errand, or bring in the wood, or wash the dishes. She

would make it as easy as possible for the child to do right. She remembers the music of that little word, "Please," and remembers that, when backed by a smiling face, it was often irresistible. "Please," wins many a battle in the home, while "Must" often goes down in defeat.

Have respect for your child—be

sympathetic and patient. It is easier to lead than to drive. Children are often responsive to kind and fair treatment who will act like little demons when needlessly crossed and opposed. The wise mother gives her children what we fathers call a square deal.

THE MOTHER WHO WAITS

Wise is the mother who gives the child time to think. When I was a very small boy my dear Mother said, one day, "John, please get me some wood."

I did not want to get that wood; I backed up against the woodbox, and stood there, sullen, scowling, disagreeable. Now my dear, wise Mother did not frown upon me, and say, in a terrible voice, "John, get that wood immediately, or I will take a stick to you." No, she simply looked at me, and then went on with her work, paying no more attention to me. Half a century has passed since that day, but how vividly I remember how miserable and unhappy I was. My conscience was active—what a good mother I had—what a mean boy I was. At last I could stand it no longer; I stole softly out of doors, piled up on my arm every stick of wood I could possibly carry, staggered in with it, and filled the woodbox. How my heart leaped for joy when my Mother said "Thank you," and I turned happily to my play again.

Oh! mothers, give the children time to think. Don't hurry them too much. God never hurries us—He gives us time to think—He is patient and long-suffering with us. Shall we not be so with our little ones?

THE MOTHER WHO IS SLIGHTLY BLIND

The wise mother does not see everything that her children do. It is really better and safer to overlook many unimportant things. If our children are normal, healthy little beings, there will be plenty of things that we must needs notice, and correct and try to change. But we must remember that parents were not

created for the express purpose of making life a burden for their children—even for their neighbor's children, for that matter.

Often, when a child is doing something objectionable, a suggestion of something else the child might do with pleasure and profit will turn the child's thought and plan to the better thing without friction.

Sometimes, when a child is doing his or her best, there are little things that are irritating to us in their conduct or words. Be patient—has not God been patient with us for many years, while we have learned so slowly? Can we expect more from a child than our Heavenly Father receives from us? Mothers, when your child is honestly trying, and it does fail, look the other way when you can conscientiously do so. Not look the other way if you can comfort or help the child, of course; but don't find fault—would God find fault with you under similar conditions?

Give the child healthful and frequent doses of encouragement, but give homeopathic doses of blame only when no other medicine will work a cure.

THE RESPONSIVE MOTHER

The responsive mother allows the children to help. They may hinder more than they help, but love makes even the hindering sweet.

When little Mary, with a heart overflowing with love, gathers wild flowers and hastens to her mother with them, the responsive mother does not say, "Oh! Mary, I haven't time to get a vase for those flowers"; but she thanks Mary, and kisses her, and her work is easier and her heart is lighter because little Mary remembers her.

The responsive mother praises Mary because she has the desire to help—it is not so much what Mary can do as what she wants to do that endears her to the mother heart.

It may be play now, but the time will come when she will lighten your burdens.

Had I Been One of Those

Had I been one of those
Who watched their sleeping flocks by night
And saw the heavens, joy-faint with light,
Beneath fair Bethlehem's rose;
Would I have known, could I have guessed,
Would I have followed with the rest
Upon that far strange quest?

And had I been
A guest in that small crowded inn
Where Mary and the child enstabled lay,
Would I adoring too have knelt to pray?

And had I heard
The hillside preacher's word—
'Come unto me,' and 'Blessed are the meek,'
Would I have guessed, would I have known
This was the One we came to seek,
This is Messiah; He alone.

Would I have loved upon his breast to lean,
Or coldly asked 'Who is this Nazarene?'
In wrath for Him have raised the sword—
Incarnate God, the Spoken Word—
Yet thrice denied him in one day,
Mayhap have kissed his life away?

Had I been one that day
To stand on Calvary's way,
Would I have joined the cry,

'Away with Him' and 'Crucify';
And helped to plait the crown of thorns,
And held to him the cup of gall,
And deemed him lost whom the world scorns,
And said 'This is the last' and 'This is all'?

How easy in these safe and pleasant days
To worship and to praise!

But if a sleeping babe now lay
Within a manger filled with hay,
And God's star pointed out the way,
Would I believe? Would I obey?

How many great hearts silently
Seek their Gethsemane
To pray and weep,
While we forgetting sleep.
For Truth is mocked and scourged away,
And Love is crucified each day.

Yet Love and Truth abide!
Love bursts the tomb and breaks the bonds
of Death
And Hate, as ancient prophet saith.
Sweet Bethlehem's star
Still shines afar,
And Christ himself doth dwell
In every heart that doeth well.
So keep we still our Christmas-tide.

New Books

Pinocchio. By C. Collodi. \$1.25. Stories All Children Love Series. With illustrations in color by Maria L. Kirk. J. B. Lippincott Co.

An Italian Fairy story, which is attractively told and will interest children. In addition it suggests right ideals of conduct. Italy has contributed so little to fairy lore of American children that it is interesting for them to know that Italian as well as German and American children enjoy fairy stories.

The Mothercraft Manual. By Mary L. Read, B.S.

The price is \$1.25 and I imagine it contains in a condensed form much of the information to be found in the more expensive "Parents Problems." These latter will have to meet the fate of Dr. Montessori's materials, i. e., be broken up and sold in separate volumes. Commercial graft and true education can not coöperate. A valuable contribution to the great work of enlightening mothers on important subjects. It is largely a compilation, but is well organized, and excellently indexed, so that any topic treated of can readily be turned to. There is very little original matter in it, almost no insight into the deeper meanings of life, and the literary form is conventional and "scientific," although it contains a number of beautifully expressed quotations. A number of the "tables" or lists of foods, of toys, of games, of stories, of books, etc., which it contains would be valuable.

The Joy of Love and Friendship. By Arthur L. Salmon. \$0.75. Forbes & Co., Chicago.

There is no greater blessing than love and friendship. The author has with keen insight discussed every phase

of the relations which come between those who are friends. A book full of beautiful thoughts.

The Elements of Civics. By John A. Lapp. Bobbs Merrill Co., Publishers, Indianapolis, Indiana.

The value of information to every boy and girl on the work and processes of government is evident, for by knowledge of these processes one understands the machinery of government and can become an intelligent citizen. In a democracy lack of knowledge of these subjects is a menace to the country.

Americanization and the building of a great nation rests principally on right education in youth. The author has stated in concise, simple way the elements of civics.

Boyology. By H. W. Gibson. Association Press, New York.

The characteristics of boyhood are portrayed by one who has had twenty-six years of actual contact with many thousand boys and who realizes that many of the boy's ways are misinterpreted and misunderstood.

"Oh the years we waste and the tears we waste,
And the work of our head and hand,
Because of the mother who did not know
(And did not care that she did not know)
And did not understand."

Parental delinquency exists in many forms and lies at the root of many blighted possibilities of boyhood. Fathers and mothers will find suggestive thought in the study of one who has devoted years of service to boys.

Program for Parent-Teacher Associations for December

The Programs given from month to month require the service of three members of the association for each meeting. They develop home talent, at the same time providing papers of educational value in child-nurture. They ensure a high standard for the season's meetings, and awaken wider interest in child-welfare as the members learn of the movement throughout the world.

FIRST TOPIC—THE VITAL LESSONS CHRISTMAS SHOULD GIVE TO CHILDREN.

CONFERENCE AND DISCUSSION.

SECOND TOPIC (To be assigned to another member).

WHAT OTHER PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS ARE DOING. See STATE NEWS.

THIRD TOPIC (To be assigned to third member).

CURRENT NEWS OF WORK FOR CHILD-WELFARE, gleaned from all sources, both local and international.

LOAN PAPERS ON CHILD-NURTURE

Send for the printed list of Loan Papers on Child Nurture and Child Welfare prepared especially for program use. The list will be sent free, provided stamp is enclosed. The papers are type-written. Twelve may be selected and kept for the season at a cost of \$2.00.

They have been written by specialists to meet the needs of parents in dealing with problems of child life at different stages of its development. Single papers will be sent for twenty-five cents and may be kept three weeks. Many new papers have been added to the list.

Every Parent-Teacher Association needs the 1917 Year Book National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. Free to Presidents of Parent-Teacher Associations in membership in the Congress. To others, Price 10 cents. National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, 910 Loan and Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

READING COURSE FOR PARENTS

Sent free on application to Department of Interior Home, Education Division, Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.

Work for Child Welfare by Parents and Teachers in National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations

STATE, NEWS

IMPORTANT, NOTICES

News items from the States must be in the hands of the editorial board by the tenth of the previous month to ensure their appearance in the next magazine. The editorial board earnestly asks attention to the necessity of complying with this rule.

The magazine invites wider correspondence with local circles and associations. Send us reports of what you are doing. It will be helpful to others.

The necessity for brevity will be realized, as space is limited and every month more states send news. News is **WORK DONE, OR NEW WORK PLANNED**. Communications must be written with ink or typewritten.

The CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE offers to every NEW circle of fifty members one year's subscription free provided that with the application for the magazine is enclosed a receipt from state treasurer showing that dues of ten cents per capita have been paid, and second a list of officers and members with their addresses.

This offer is made to aid new circles with their program and to give them the opportunity to become acquainted with the great organized parenthood of America.

Subscribers to CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE should notify the publishers before the 15th of the current month if the magazine is not received. Back numbers cannot be furnished unless failure to receive the magazine is immediately noted.

ALABAMA

This year in relation to child-welfare work, the individual circles of the Alabama State Congress are more alive than ever before to the importance of the good start for their children, and they know that a good start means the educative awaking of the future mothers.

Our State Superintendent of Education says: "If I had six boys and six girls in my family, and could only educate six of them the girls would be educated. Why? because when you educate a girl you educate a family." I am sure all will rejoice with us that we have just carried the educational amendment that permits local taxation for the schools.

Mrs. Doster, one of the district organizers, reports the organization of a circle in Electric, a very active one, which has held an open meeting attended by three hundred.

Abbeville Circle reports inviting all mothers of the village to their meeting when a fine programme was given, Playmates of Our Children. Do we fail in not teaching love, gratitude, and respect, and why? followed by discussion.

The discussion is one of the most important features of a circle. Minerva Circle adds her gift to this report in the shape of a talk on music in the home. Music is the universal language, and cannot be too highly stressed in the home life.

Ozark sends programme, What the child means to its parents, and What every mother should know. Very wonderful and important knowledge is contained in these subjects.

The Mothers' Circle of Montgomery has had several meetings, all interesting and instructive, at one of which Dr. Dawson, a baby specialist, told of experimental tests having been made with thirty children, not selected as to environment or birth heredity, but gathered promiscuously. The thirty were watched carefully by skilled nurses day and night as to diet, fed regularly, and as far as science has revealed scientifically, no attention being paid to any other feature, except bathing. At the end of the month fifteen developed bowel trouble, ten died.

Forty other children, selected in the same manner, were taken and only temperature clothing and baths were paid attention to, by highly skilled nurses day and night (that is they were clothed according to the changes of temperature), the aim being to keep them at normal. At the end of the month only two of the forty developed bowel trouble, none died; emphasizing that temperature is more important than diet. Dr. Dawson recommended the drinking of a quart of water a day, and not more than a small glass full at meals. These facts seemed so important to us that I am incorporating them in my report, for, as I understand it that is what those reports are for, to pass on knowledge.

The State Congress has been compelled to accept the resignation of its highly valued president, Mrs. B. F. Hardeman, on account of the illness of her husband, but we trust her withdrawal from the work is only temporary.

CALIFORNIA

The reciprocity luncheon of the Berkeley Federation of Mothers' Clubs and Parent-Teacher Associations given on October 31 for fathers, mothers and friends threw several interesting facts into high relief: the growth of enthusiasm and interest in mothers' clubs, indicated by the 328 reservations made; the fact that an excellent program of songs and recitations was given by talent drawn from the ranks of the clubs, and finally the appreciation of the value of child-welfare work shown by the board of education in granting the principals a half-holiday to make possible their attendance at the luncheon.

Hallowe'en emblems and a wealth of dahlias and greenery decorated the hall, the federation pennant bearing the motto, "We build for to-morrow," being hung on one of the walls, while on the central table at which the president, Mrs. C. R. Reilly, presided, and around which were grouped the guests of honor, was a huge pumpkin filled with grapes, dahlias, chrysanthemums and autumn foliage. On the table about the pumpkin were strewn apples, carrots and Hallowe'en favors in rich autumn colors.

Among the guests of honor were the Mayor of Berkeley, the superintendent of schools, the second vice-president of the California Congress of Mothers, representing the president, Mrs. H. N. Rowell, who was unfortunately unable to attend, the president of the Second District, California Congress of Mothers, a former president of the federation, now a member of the school board, representatives from the San Francisco and Oakland federations, the president of the Berkeley Center of the California Civic League and the mothers who furnished the musical and literary portion of the program.

Nearly all the principals of the Berkeley schools attended and among the guests were a few fathers, who were able to lay aside business cares and accept the federation's invitation.

Child welfare, the purpose of the mothers' clubs, was the subject of the afternoon. Mr. H. E. Brasefield, vice-principal of the Fremont High School of Oakland, was the principal speaker.

Greetings were extended by the president of the federation, Mrs. C. R. Reilly, who spoke of the wonderful growth of mothers' club work in Berkeley. "In the beginning," she said, "we spoke in fives, tens and fifteens, while today we speak in hundreds. We have come to realize that we should shake off the cloak of indifference and recognize our responsibilities as fathers and mothers. All our work is for the benefit of the future citizen."

The president quoted Theodore Roosevelt as saying that the United States has plenty of able men; it has smart men in every town and city; it has more rich men than it knows what to do with, but what the country needs is clean men. Upon parents, said Mrs. Reilly, lies the responsibility of providing clean men for the community and the nation.

Mayor S. C. Irving then paid a tribute to the work of the mothers, and traced the influence of woman upon man from the cradle to the grave—mother, teacher, sweetheart and wife. Whatever of good man has, he owes to woman. "The mothers' organizations have undertaken a great work in child welfare," the Mayor said, and he added that he had no doubt they would be able to carry it to a successful conclusion.

Mrs. A. L. Whitman, president of the Second District, California Congress of Mothers, who visits three federations a month in her district, said the most striking characteristics of the Berkeley Federation are its loyalty to its purpose of child welfare and its thoroughness of method, while those of the Oakland Federation are enthusiasm and financial ability. She said that the Berkeley Federation's loyalty to purpose has won for it the confidence of school authorities and of civic authorities, as the loyalty of the State and National organizations have gained the confidence of educators and the cooperation of the federal government.

Supt. M. C. James extended the thanks of the principals for being invited to the big annual event of the mothers' clubs and said that while in the past teachers had been a little timid and doubtful about the motives of mothers' clubs, now they understand and appreciate their kindly feeling and helpful cooperation.

Mrs. R. O. Moody, president of the Berkeley Center of the California Civic League, congratulated the federation on the inundation of enthusiasm and interest which had resulted in a situation too large for any organized headquarters in Berkeley, and also on the efficient manner in which the difficulty had been met. Closer cooperation between the mothers' clubs and the civic league was urged by Mrs. Moody, who reminded her hearers that cooperation is the basis of modern life. The league works in one way, watching, studying and scattering news of civics, while the mothers' clubs specialize in another field. By keeping alive the interest in and feeling for civic life, the mothers can be of definite help to the league, which, in turn, can give the mothers the benefit of its study and achievements in civics and legislation.

Mrs. W. H. Marston, second vice-president, California Congress of Mothers, representing

the president, Mrs. H. N. Rowell, spoke of the marvelous growth of mothers' clubs in California. Last year, there were two districts in the state, now there are seven, two of them less than four weeks old. Three years ago there were 8,000 members, now there are 20,000. It is not, however, the mere numbers that count, but the enthusiasm and good understanding of purpose that prevail.

Mr. Brasefield gave a stimulating talk on "Child Culture," giving battle to many a false method and mistaken idea current in the training of children, but tempering his remarks with a delicious humor. He said that the greatest function of human beings is parenthood, but, he added, too long have the father and the mother been separated in the upbringing of the child, and the father has not been held responsible for his share.

The problem in child culture is to provide environment and influences that will lead out the best within the child.

The three purposes of education are self-discovery, self-expression and self-control. Do not curb a child in his expression and never attempt to break his will, but let it come out and give it direction.

Mr. Brasefield advised parents to keep hands off their children, for every child is a bit of divinity that has already in it all the essentials of his life and let him listen for its call. Do not force upon him a vocation of your own choosing and do not hurry him along.

And democracy means the alienable right of every child to its own life, freedom to work out its own life and the right to the best in environment and opportunity. The community should plan to afford the child the best, and helpful, instructive and positive influences should surround him to bring out the best in his life.

Mrs. C. C. Noble is president of the Los Angeles Federation of Parent-Teacher Associations, which includes 117 parent-teacher associations with a paid-up membership of 7,000 and with seventeen departments of work in each.

The Los Angeles Parent-Teacher Association gave a reception to the city superintendent, November 15.

Christmas stockings will be given to children who otherwise would have none.

December 8 is observed as Parent-Teacher Association Day, and is proclaimed a holiday by the Mayor. The Chamber of Commerce give a large office for the use of the Los Angeles Federation of Parent-Teacher Associations.

▶ An automobile parade will celebrate Parent-Teacher Day and visits will be made to the schools that have free day nurseries, penny lunches and free clinics.

Wonderful has been the growth since in 1902 the California branch of the national was organized in Los Angeles.

Santa Cruz County feels she has reason to be proud of her county organization of its Federation of Parent-Teacher Associations. This Federation comprises thirteen school districts, each one represented by six delegates, with an average attendance of thirty-two delegates.

We are working along the same lines as the Congress of Mothers, using the yearbook as our guide.

We are proud to say of the twenty-one dollars and fifty cents State contribution to Child-Welfare Day, eight dollars and fifty cents of that sum was sent by Santa Cruz County. Each of the thirteen Parent-Teacher Associations are in good financial standing and each one doing a great deal of good in its own district; each taking up some special line of work.

COLORADO

Mrs. C. A. Donnelly gave an interesting report of the proceedings of the National Conference of Charities and Corrections in its session on child welfare. The president announced that all meetings of the district will be held at the Woman's club.

The regular program for the afternoon was conducted by the chairman of the program committee, Prof. H. M. Barrett, principal of East Denver High School. The speakers were Dr. William Sharpley, Ben B. Jones, president of the school board; Supt. Carlos M. Cole, Mrs. Fred Dick, Miss Sarah Ketner, Mrs. W. R. Ramsey and W. H. Mussey. Mr. Barrett announced that there would be an interesting educational program during the year. Some of the speakers promised in the university extension course will be Dr. Libby of the State University, Bishop McConnell, former President J. H. Baker of Boulder University, Dr. R. W. Corwin of Pueblo, President H. C. Parmelee of the School of Mines, and Miss Inga Allison, teacher of home economics in the State Agricultural College.

The following is the list of the officers and chairmen of committees for the coming year:

President, Mrs. W. R. Ramsey; first vice-president, Mrs. E. P. Costigan; second vice-president, Mrs. J. C. Oakes; third vice-president, Mrs. C. A. Donnelly; recording secretary, Mrs. J. W. Bateman; assistant, Mrs. Lewis Hayden; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Hume White; assistant, Mrs. S. J. Potter; treasurer, Mrs. G. A. Brown; assistant, Mrs. F. M. Ross; auditor, Mrs. L. D. MacNaughton; parliamentarian, Mrs. E. Seldon.

COMMITTEES

Child Welfare—Mrs. Bert Davis.
Courtesy—Mrs. T. E. Carmody.
Editorial—Mrs. A. G. Fish.
Efficiency—Mrs. L. J. Curtis.
Hygiene—Mrs. G. K. Brewster.
Kindergarten—Mrs. W. S. Lail.
Literature—Miss Clara J. Coney.
Membership—Mrs. W. S. Perrin.
Organizing—Mrs. W. S. Stott.
Program—Principal H. M. Barrett.
Press and Publicity—Mrs. H. A. Winter.
Social Extension—Dr. Jenette H. Bolles.
Speakers' Bureau—Miss Anna Louise Johnson.
Social—Mrs. George Reitze.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Mothers' Council—Mrs. Joel Shackelford.
Attendance—Mrs. F. E. Rankine.

ILLINOIS

The interesting article on Councils of Parent-Teacher Associations, which was published in the October MAGAZINE has created inquiries as to the Rules of the Chicago Council. They are therefore given for consideration to others. They have proved successful and satisfactory in Chicago.

COUNCIL OF PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS
OF CHICAGO AND VICINITY*Rules*

I. The Council of Parent-Teacher Clubs of Chicago and Vicinity shall be a department of the Illinois Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, and shall serve as a clearing-house for local problems of educational interest. It shall hold at least three meetings each year for interchange of experience and for mutual inspiration.

II. The membership of the Council shall consist of all members of affiliated clubs, clubs in membership, and associate members of the Congress.

III. There shall be no dues other than those paid to the Illinois Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. The running expenses of the Council (consisting of postage, printing, etc.) shall be borne by the Congress, each item being voted upon by the executive committee of the Illinois Congress Board.

IV. The control of the Council shall be vested in a board of nine members elected bi-ennially, as follows: Five members (of whom two only shall be residents of Chicago) shall be elected by the Council at its Spring

meeting. (These elections shall be by ballot from nominations made from the floor.) The chairman and vice-chairman shall be elected by the Congress Board, and the state and city organizers shall be ex-officio members of the Council Board.

V. Lines of work ordered by the Council shall be carried out in the Congress Committees, subject to the approval of the Congress Executive Board.

VI. Resolutions may not be presented at Council meetings unless first approved by the Council Board.

VII. Eight weeks preceding each Council meeting a meeting of the Council Board shall be called by the chairman to formulate a program for the meeting. Notices shall be mailed to all clubs belonging to the Council at least one month in advance of the meeting.

*Suggested Constitution for Councils in Cities or Counties throughout the State**

ARTICLE I. The Council of Parent-Teacher Associations of County shall be a branch of the Illinois Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

ARTICLE II. The Council shall hold at least two meetings a year for the interchange of experience and for mutual inspiration.

ARTICLE III. The officers of this Council shall be a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary, elected by the Council for one year.

ARTICLE IV. Meetings of the Council shall be planned by a board of seven members, consisting of the three officers, the local board member of the Illinois Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, or some one appointed for the purpose by the Congress Board, and three others elected by the Council.

ARTICLE V. The membership of the Council shall consist of all members of all Parent-Teacher Associations in the county belonging to the Illinois Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. Temporary membership may be accorded other Parent-Teacher Associations at the discretion of the Council Board.

ARTICLE VI. There shall be no dues from the clubs other than those paid the Illinois Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. The expenses of the Council (such as postage, printing, etc.) shall be borne by the Congress.

MAINE

The Conference of the Maine Branch of National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations held at Portland, Me.,

* The County Council is recommended as preferable.

October 27, in conjunction with, and by invitation of the Maine Teachers Association, which numbers over 4,000 members, was highly successful. One of the earnest educators in the state, in making mention of the meeting in a daily paper published at the capital city, said: "This first appearance of the Parent-Teacher Association in the official program of the Maine State Teachers Convention was an unqualified success." The meeting opened with prayer by Rev. John Graham, of South Bridgton, followed by an address by Mrs. Milton P. Higgins, National Vice-President and State President of Massachusetts Branch National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations on the "Value of the Construction." During the address Mrs. Higgins said: "The parent-teacher association is not a public education association, which is working for a better curriculum and better methods. On the contrary, it is an association which coöperates with the teacher in assisting her to carry out the prescribed methods of her school by influencing the child both at home and at school."

In the discussion which followed it was very clearly set forth that the parent-teacher association was intended to be a constructive force, not a channel for criticism, and that unless the local association could be of service to its community it had no reason for being.

Josiah W. Taylor, of Augusta, chairman of the education department, told of the attitude of the State Board of Education toward parent-teacher associations, saying that such local associations could be a great power for good if conducted in the spirit of helpfulness, and that the state board was willing to give all the help in its power.

The departments of Kindergarten Extension, and Child-Welfare Legislation were created.

Miss Nellie E. Brown, one of the leading kindergartners of the state, was elected chairman of the kindergarten department. Mrs. Guy P. Gannett, of Augusta, was elected chairman of the Child-Welfare Legislation Committee.

Attention was called to the fact that the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Association recommends, the continuance of work to secure mother's pensions in states that have not yet adopted it and perfecting of the system with special study of the Pennsylvania and New York system in the belief that no measure is more effective in the promotion of child welfare.

The interest and enthusiasm shown by those attending this conference was most noticeable.

The Maine Branch of National Congress

of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations has the hearty support of the State Board of Education, State Board of Health and State Library, as well as that of the leading educators in Maine.

MISSOURI

The National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations has entered the field of work again after a lull during the vacation. Our 50 parents, principally presidents of the different associations, went to the Board of Health meeting. There were other club women present also and the Consumers League.

The Council has endorsed dental and medical inspection in the schools.

Miss Campbell, principal of the new school for the "problem boy," spoke to the Council. Because a boy is poor in one line of work is no reason why he may not be a genius in others. Give him a chance to show his individuality. Miss Campbell wants it distinctly understood it is not a school for incorrigibles.

The Norman School of Kansas City finds it a good plan to have the Parents and Teachers register as they come in. In that way we get the addresses of the members. A question box proved enjoyable.

Small School wins honors in gardening. The Star Cup was won by The Frances Willard School; second trophy, Ashland; third trophy, Scarrett; fourth trophy, Henry C. Kumpf. Miss Nellie Gwynne, of Norman School, was judged first among all school gardeners.

The Missouri Board of Directors has divided the state into ten organizing sections, each in charge of one of the state vice-presidents whose duty it is to organize circles, to meet the county superintendents, speak at county institutes for teachers and school boards, and to hold county conferences of congress circles. Mrs. Hale will hold a two-day conference in Monett, Barry County, Mo., in October, to which are invited all teachers and all circles in nine counties in her charge. All the delegates will be entertained by the city and the State President, Mrs. Walter Jobe, will speak. Mrs. Symns, of the Nevada Section, has just completed a circuit of county institutes arranged for her by county superintendents in her section and reports more calls for workers than she can fill. The teachers in a town in Miller County are begging for an active Parent-Teacher Association. The counties in the vicinity of Kansas City are begging to use Mrs. J. C. Sheldon, the vice-president in charge of that section. The use of the sec-

tioning and the effectiveness of the use of the vice-presidents as organizers has been fully demonstrated, though the plan has been in operation only since May. It is apparent that the summer months furnish as many opportunities for furthering congress work as do the school months. The rural teachers are more easily reached at that time, through the great numbers of county institutes. The state board has appointed a sub-chairman in Child Hygiene Department to work in coöperation with the state association for the relief and control of tuberculosis. Literature on this subject is to be distributed through the state vice-presidents. The state president has been placed by the Mayor of Kansas City on the woman's committee to suggest to the city charter commission suitable provisions for the proposed new city charter. Mrs. Jobe has advocated a woman on the board of health and a child hygiene department. Mrs. J. B. McBride, former state president, is working with the state children's code commission and as chairman of the Parent-Teacher Association department of the State Teachers Association. Mrs. W. F. Corbin, 1200 West 39th St., Kansas City, is State Press Chairman and desires news from associations in membership.

SORORITY CIRCLE, ST. LOUIS

The Sorority Circle of the National Congress of Mothers held their first meeting at Cabanue Branch Library, September 28, 10 a. m.

At the Charity Ball Game given for the benefit of the Tuberculosis Society, their work being the sale of peanuts and popcorn, \$700 was realized from their efforts.

A reciprocity meeting will be held November 1. A playette written by a member will be given. With the outing for the motherless in October and the meeting planned for their own children in November, Sorority Circle is demonstrating their desire to live up to that beautiful verse which they have selected for their yearbook, written by Ella Wheeler Wilcox:

"Lord give the mothers of the world
More love to do their part;
That love which reaches not alone
The children made by birth their own,
But every childish heart.
Make in their souls true motherhood,
Which aims at universal good."

KANSAS CITY

The Parent-Teacher Associations of Van Horn School, realizing the need of keeping children occupied during vacation, offered \$17 in prizes in cooking, candy making,

crocheting, tatting, gardening and the best kept lawn. The children were most interested. A creditable display was on exhibition.

Ashland School.—Our organization is the largest in the state and second in the United States—1000 pupils in school. Eight pairs of twins were on display by the principal; beautiful collection of handwork of all kinds, heirlooms and the pets of the children. They illustrated their recitations and songs with live animals (rabbits, kittens and white mice, etc.). Very cleverly done!

Norman School.—Our first fathers' meeting, November 6, proved a great success, over twenty-seven fathers joining. "Community Spirit" was the topic. A bolt of domest flannel was furnished by the association. The sixth and seventh grade girls are making 31 infant night dresses for charity as a Christmas offering.

Webster, Switzer and Garfield Schools are now in the Congress, Garfield with 50 members.

WESTON, MO.

An afflicted child was sent by the Association to Mercy Hospital. A \$75 Victrola was purchased for the school. \$52.30 were made at an entertainment in September.

Monett had its first conference, October 20 and 21. Delegates from Carthage, Nevada, and Mt. Vernon attended. Many State officers were present.

INDEPENDENCE

The council's first meeting was in September. All schools were represented but one. The erection of a new high school building is taking up our time. \$110,000 in bonds were voted. A night school has been successfully carried on. The expense of the supervisor's salary and other expenses have been furnished by the council of Parent-Teacher Associations. Twelve teachers are giving their services. Over 40 pupils are enrolled.

NEVADA

The board meeting was held here, October 24 and 25. The council entertained the members most hospitably. Many entertainments were given in their honor. Nevada's most beautiful homes were thrown open to us.

SPRINGFIELD

The Parent-Teacher Association has arranged to furnish hedge plants free to various public schools, janitors and pupils doing the work. The council's year book is a credit to our city.

COLUMBIA

The Benton Club has furnished a library room in the school. A memorial fund was raised and a beautiful marble tablet erected in honor of Miss Flood, who taught twenty-two years in our school. We have one of the best-equipped domestic science rooms in the state. Columbia mothers favor better movies for children.

HUNTSVILLE

On October 20 the Parent-Teacher Association was organized by Mrs. J. H. Sheldon. It is the largest membership ever recorded in the state. Two hundred paid members joined.

ST. LOUIS

The council recommends joining the Missouri State Teachers Association. Several of our state officers will attend the convention. The council will entertain the officers of the Missouri Parent-Teacher Associations, who will meet in St. Louis in November, with a luncheon at the American Annex.

Jennings School Parent-Teacher Association gave a county fair, October 28, which was a great success. The exhibits were divided as follows: Textile, epicurean and educational. About 600 people attended.

NEW JERSEY

The sixteenth annual meeting of the New Jersey Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations was held at Upper Montclair, N. J., November 10 and 11, 1916.

The general topic was: "Forces Contributing to the Spiritual Development of the Child—the Home, the Church, the School, the Community."

Among the speakers were: Miss Anna M. Clark, County Secretary of N. E. Field Y. W. C. A.; Dr. Jay T. Stocking, of Upper Montclair; Prof. Edward Porter St. John, Religious School of Pedagogy, Hartford, Conn.; Mrs. Vladimir Gr. Simkhovitch, Director Greenwich House, New York; Rev. Davis W. Lusk, D.D., Newark, N. J.

Mrs. Wellington Bechtel, president, in her report, said: To the New Jersey Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations it has been a year of pronounced growth, in numbers and interest. There has developed a better understanding of the aims and purposes, also a greater appreciation shown for the unity and importance of the work, as well as for the inspiration gained by membership in the state organization.

Through the cooperation of the national and state departments of education, the work has been carried into parts of New Jersey totally unfamiliar with the movement.

The opportunity afforded by the cooperation of the state summer school, with the congress, in a conference held July 17 to 19 in Queen City, to explain to 650 teachers of New Jersey, the value of the parent-teacher association, uniting as a unit in a state organization, devoted solely to the welfare of the child, proved its importance by the encouraging response from centers never in touch before as well as demonstrating through the school of observation the advanced methods of instruction, for the benefit of visiting parents. Thirty-three cities and towns were represented while 73 delegates registered.

This cooperation of the state department of public instruction with the New Jersey Congress of Mothers has made necessary a new state committee, composed of three officers of the congress, with Dr. Kendall, Dr. Sensor and Mr. Scott, of the educational department to confere and advise regarding the extension of state work.

The congress is also cooperating with the county, helping teachers, through them hoping to carry the parent-teacher spirit into all rural districts.

Forty-four associations and mothers' clubs have joined the Congress since the annual meeting in Trenton, making 159 clubs in membership, with 5,800 per capita members, with hundreds of interested women in our affiliated clubs.

Your president has visited Plainfield Mothers' Club, Gloucester High School, Barrington Parent-Teacher Association, Camden, Lincoln, Jessie Stair and Unity East schools; Laurel Springs; Audubon; Williamstown; Lakewood and Almonessen. An address was made at the Haddenfield W. C. T. U., a mothers' meeting and a child hygiene session; home-making contest of Gloucester County; Bridgeton Home-making committee; Raritan County Council; Camden County Conference, also annual meeting of New Jersey Federation of Women's Clubs, and State Meeting of Colonial Dames, as chief representative of the New Jersey Congress.

Your president gave a greeting to the Trenton Normal School in February, when an opportunity was afforded at a luncheon given by Dr. Green, to explain the congress aims to persons of large influence in the state.

Your president has presided at five board meetings and three of the executive board. Many letters of greeting and information pertaining to various lines of endeavor, have been written, a circular letter to state presidents, calling the March conference in Camden High School as guests of the parent-teacher associations of the city was responded to by 104 presidents or their representatives.

The county reports read at this time gave an inspiring view of large accomplishments achieved through the endeavors of most valuable women.

At this state conference, the Board of Managers officially appointed a Teacher's Day, to be observed annually in October, when greetings from parents to new teachers, and an expression of appreciation extended to every teacher for her interest in the welfare of the child. The year book sent out in January was a step towards more complete and helpful messages from the state to its members; this has been made necessary by the rapid growth of the work, just as the numerous demands for membership brought forth a need for application cards. These cards now afford an efficient and dignified method of registration.

During the year a tentative plan for the proposed appointment of county councils has been used in ten counties.

The state officers, recognizing the fact that all associations and clubs, in membership with the Congress, should be in close touch with the state Congress, which covers such an important field of work—home, church, school and state—that it is expedient to establish different aims for the purpose of each association, so that the construction work undertaken by them, will lead to a harmonious, progressive whole. With this clearly in mind, the council becomes a link in the chain of organization, and so related to state work that it grows into a bulwark of strength to the state and county.

The Congress has sustained a great loss in the death of one of its most valuable women, Mrs. I. Henry Welling, of Trenton, State Chairman of Legislation and Finance. She was particularly fitted for the important position she carried so ably for many years, her last tribute to the work being a whole-hearted effort, regardless of rapidly failing health, to carry to a successful conclusion the summer conference of the congress, held at Ocean City in July. Mrs. Welling's death occurred August 23. It can be truly said of her, "She served Him with a perfect heart and a willing mind." Mrs. Welling was deeply spiritual and expressed a great interest in the topic of our program this year—"Forces Contributing to the Spiritual Development of the Child," believing that it is not from without that religion comes into a child's life, but from the first, there being a latent religion in every child, it rests with the parents to direct the channel of his religious training by an all around development.

As the Congress stands for the child in the home, church, school and state, it is the hope and earnest desire that from this session a new vision will arise, leading forth a more

spiritually inspired body of women, eager to use their enlarged influence, by encouraging mothers, especially the young mother, in the church, where the spiritual food strengthens all mothers for the duties of life and draws her closer to the Heavenly Father, whose loving guidance is over all His children."

NEW YORK

The nineteenth annual meeting of the New York State Assembly of Mothers was held in Binghamton, October 10, 11, 12 and 13. The attendance was large, the delegates enthusiastic, the program most interesting and helpful and much very important work was accomplished in the executive meetings.

New York State has 168 affiliated clubs with about 10,000 members. Thirty-eight new clubs were added during the year. A field worker was employed for two months this autumn. Soon every mothers' club and parent-teacher association in the state will be affiliated.

One of the most important acts of the Assembly was its change of name. This has been under consideration for some time. The new name, "New York State Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, Branch of the National Congress of Mothers," was unanimously adopted. At the same business meeting the constitution was revised in many respects.

The meetings were held in the beautiful auditorium of the Central High School. The Mothers' Clubs of Binghamton had spared no time or expense to make the convention an assured success. Mrs. Henry Osgood Holland, the much beloved and honored State President, responded briefly to the cordial greetings from Binghamton, inviting the citizens of the city to attend the sessions of the congress. The speaker of the evening was Dr. William Byron Forbush, who took as his subject "The Girl Problem."

A discussion of the work done by the individual clubs, led by the third vice-president, Mrs. Thomas R. Kneil, of Saratoga Springs, was valuable. The congress publishes a year book giving condensed reports of the work accomplished by the affiliated clubs, the whole making a marvelous record of child-welfare endeavor.

A reception held in the Monday Afternoon Club House was attended by all of the women's clubs of the city, the city officials, the clergy, prominent citizens and teachers in the schools. There was a call to have the papers read printed, that they might be read by every club in the state. This was put to a vote and carried.

At the final evening session, Dr. A. R.

Brubacher, president of New York State College for Teachers, gave the oration. The resolutions were read by Mrs. Albert H. Hamilton, chairman of the committee on resolutions. Mrs. Holland in her farewell address said that the meeting had been one of the best ever held by the congress. That the interest shown, the anxiety of the clubs to put forth their best endeavors, the loyalty exhibited toward the congress—all were most gratifying. Mrs. Holland thanked all those who had aided in making the convention such an unqualified success, and spoke particularly of the children of the schools who had taken an active part. She said that she felt that the delegates would return to their various clubs fired with a new zeal for this great work for the children of the state.

Friday morning an automobile ride was enjoyed to places of interest in and about the city. The week was brought to a happy ending by a delightful luncheon, Mrs. Everett C. Metcalf, first vice-president, acting as toastmaster.

PENNSYLVANIA

The seventeenth annual convention of the Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations was held in Reading, October 25, 26 and 27. The address of welcome was given by the president of the Chamber of Commerce of Reading, and they showed their welcome to us not only in their presence but also in their kindness in having our programmes printed for us.

We were honored by having with us our national president, Mrs. Frederic Schoff, Mrs. Milton P. Higgins, president Massachusetts Branch of the Mothers Congress; Mrs. Wm. F. Thacher, National Treasurer; Mrs. Lippincott, National Chairman of the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE; Dr. Kate Waller Barrett, a member of the national board, and Miss Mary S. Garrett, National Chairman of Legislature, all members of the national board.

Mrs. Howard W. Lippincott was made an honorary president.

An invitation was received and accepted from Johnstown to hold our convention there in 1917, and one from Coatesville to hold our convention there in 1918.

Among the speakers were Mrs. Frederic Schoff, Mrs. Milton P. Higgins, Mrs. Wm. Thatcher, Dr. Thomas S. Wood, of Columbia University, Superintendent Foos, of the Reading schools, Dr. Kate Waller Barrett, of the Bureau of Immigration, and Mrs. Samuel Semple, past president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs. Mrs. Walter E. Greenwood, of Coatesville, and Mrs.

Robert C. Stevens, of Erie, conducted round table conferences.

Superintendent Foos of the Reading schools, in a few words, said that, since attending the convention, he had changed his viewpoint in regard to parent-teacher associations and would assist in organizing them in the future.

The following resolutions were submitted by the resolution committee and adopted by the Pennsylvania congress:

1. Inasmuch as the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE is the official organ of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, containing helpful and inspiring articles, monthly programs for use in clubs and circles, state news, telling what other sections of our country are doing, and the "President's Desk," showing the growth and wonderful progress which the Mothers' Congress idea has made, and the honors conferred upon the organization in being asked to help in some of the most worth-while and important work now claiming the attention of the world, Be it resolved that every member of the Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers is earnestly advised to become a subscriber to the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE at an early date.

2. Be it resolved that we, the Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers, now in annual session in Reading, desire to manifest our loyalty to and unbounded confidence in our national president, who has dedicated her life to this work, and has accomplished so much for the welfare of the children of the state, the country, and the world.

3. Be it resolved that the members of the Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers endorse the quarantine regulations of our excellent State Board of Health under the leadership of Dr. Samuel G. Dixon and cooperate with him to prevent the spread of contagious diseases, and use every effort to extend the knowledge of preventive measures.

4. Be it resolved that the Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations express with deep appreciation its heartfelt thanks to Dr. Foos, the local committee, the school board, chamber of commerce and Berkshire Hotel for their cordial reception and hearty cooperation; also the musicians for the beautiful music; and to the newspapers for their splendid reports; all of which have made our stay in their hospitable city a pleasure long to be remembered.

5. Whereas the Department of Labor of the United States has established in the Bureau of Immigration a modern employment system; whereas the addition of separate divisions for women and girls, and for young men and boys, equipped for placement purposes for those over sixteen years of age, and for supplying information as to industry, vocational

guidance and industrial training to those under that age; meets a long-felt want, therefore, Be it resolved that the Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations endorse the plan of organization of the Women and Girls Division inaugurated by said department and are glad that it is officered entirely by women occupying equal rank and receiving equal pay as men officers do in the Young Men and Boys Division.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE AT SOMERSET, PA.

A Conference of Parent-Teacher Associations from Cambria, Huntingdon, Bedford, Westmoreland, and Somerset Counties, was held at Somerset, Pa., on Saturday, October 21. In spite of bad weather and worse roads, over one hundred were in attendance, and a program of unusual interest was given. Mrs. Eliza A. Fathergill, state president, opened the program with an account of the splendid work done by the Child-Study Circles of Pittsburgh, an account of which was given in a recent issue of the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE. She was followed by C. A. Bevans, president of the Jenners association, which is not yet a year old, but has accomplished wonders in that time. Jenners is a mining town of about 1,500 population, largely foreign. The school building before the association was organized was too small, and without any modern conveniences or sanitary arrangements. By coöperating with the school board, the association has succeeded in adding two new rooms, sanitary toilets, and drinking fountains, calcimined the walls, put the school yard in good condition, and surrounded it with a fence and established a playground. Not only that, but by coöperating with the Consolidation Coal Company's Welfare Department, electric lights will be put in the school building and one room fitted up as a social center with library, games, etc. The coöperation of the foreigners in this community has been noteworthy.

Superintendent J. N. Adeo, of Johnstown, gave an able address on the possibilities of these associations, illustrating it with accounts of the work done by the eleven Johnstown associations, through the central council of their presidents. One year the associations and schools took as their slogan "How to keep well," and stressed physical efficiency in all of their programs and other work; another year, "Thrift," another year, "Recreation" and "Playgrounds" the third year and so on.

The Johnstown associations have coöperated with their respective school boards in every possible manner, ranging all the way

from establishing playgrounds to the installing of first-aid kits.

Mrs. Ryland, president of the Meyersdale association, struck a note new in this district—the undertaking of the beginnings of a dental clinic and the free treatment of children's eyes in the Meyersdale schools, through the good offices of the local association.

Miss Brannon, an officer of the Conemaugh association, reported much good work done by her organization—the most original and noteworthy "stunt" being the purchase of a \$175 pathoscope for use in the schools to illustrate school work, and show educational films to the children on special occasions. Five good films weekly are provided for the first three months by the school board at a cost of \$37.50, as an experiment. It is hoped that this idea will be borrowed by many other associations as an offset to the lure of the "movies." Mrs. C. T. Saylor, an officer of the Rockwood association, reported a wonderful year for their organization, chiefly owing to the energetic management of their president, Rev. Erlei, who launched a contest early in the year between two rival membership teams, the loser to treat the winner to an oyster supper at the end of the season. The membership is now 300—a phenomenal number for a town of 1,500 inhabitants. This association has leased lots adjoining the school building, and will equip them as a playground next year.

Refreshments were served by the Somerset association at this conference.

TENNESSEE

TRI-STATE FAIR—TENNESSEE—MISSISSIPPI—ARKANSAS—MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

As the hostess city it may be said of Memphis that never before in the history of the city schools has there been such active work planned and executed as was planned by "The Mothers Congress and Parent-Teacher Association," in its effort to demonstrate and exhibit at the Tri-State Fair problems of vital importance to school and home life.

Mrs. E. A. Lavison is general chairman; Mrs. L. A. Thornton, chairman of program; Mrs. Thornton president of the High School association; Mrs. Lavison organizer of Shelby County; Mrs. Walter L. Gray, chairman of press and publicity.

Thirty thousand slips relative to parent-teacher work were sent out with the fair bulletin.

This is the first year that the parent-teacher associations have held an exhibit.

The members of the parent-teacher associa-

tions proclaimed the opening of the fair in a parade through the streets.

Every school in the city was represented in a line of 154 autos. All plans were perfected by the united effort of twenty local associations.

The club-house at the fair grounds served as headquarters, for parent-teacher association members and friends from the three states.

In gorgeous electric lights the sign "Welcome Parent-Teacher Association" was displayed at both ends of building. The "play-ground" which adjoined the club house was laid off and equipped by the park commission.

Lectures were given each day upon vital questions for children, and music and receptions every afternoon and evening for members and friends.

Local associations served as luncheon hostesses each day.

A nursery department termed "aid tired mothers" was in evidence. Parents were invited to leave their children at this department, where they received every attention.

Story telling was a feature of the amusements.

Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, state president, was present and appeared on the program, presenting the work of the Tennessee National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

Snowden School Association was awarded the blue ribbon for their exhibit.

The exhibit featured in miniature, a model school, playground, athletics, and baseball team, they having been proclaimed the heavyweight champion of the public school athletic association. Mrs. F. F. Kelley is president.

Merril School Association, of which Mrs. A. M. Henry is president, was awarded the red ribbon, ranking second in their exhibit and record. The featuring in their exhibit was "school library." This miniature in wood showed the twenty-five hundred books that were issued in five months.

Leath school association, of which Mrs. Chas. Luke is president was awarded the white ribbon, having third honor for exhibit and record. Athletics were featured in this exhibit. Uniforms of the ball teams were furnished by the parent-teacher associations of Leath School.

Following the advice of Hon. Logan Page, regarding district meeting, Tennessee has had three—east, middle and west Tennessee. Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, state president, has been able to be present on each occasion, appearing on the program and meeting representatives from every section.

DAVIDSON COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Two new additions to the congress—Eastland Parent-Teacher Association and Una Parent-Teacher Association—organized by Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, state president. A splendid association has been organized recently at Eastland school. At once a lunch room was installed, the mothers preparing and serving same daily at a price within reach of all. This feature has met with not only the approval but thorough appreciation of the parents. An entertainment to aid financially is planned to take place at an early date.

Bright prospects is the report coming from Una Parent-Teacher Association, very recently organized by the state president, Mrs. Eugene Crutcher.

The Jere Baxter Parent-Teacher Association, which was for some time one of the smallest organizations in the state, but one always substantially identified in all local parent-teacher movements and in many interests of the state congress, has begun a new year with increasing membership and a thorough love and appreciation of child welfare in its broadest sense.

A Hallowe'en party, which was given at the school, was both a social and financial success.

The harvest decorations which were used were in beautiful harmony with the surroundings of this rural school. The jack-o'-lanterns stood everywhere—in windows and about the grounds. They gave one a timely welcome. Many visitors came in costumes. The refreshments were gallons of good pure cider. The committee on refreshments got the apples right out of the orchards and with their own hands made the cider. The affair is one of many happy affairs the Jere Baxter ladies have had. The association has accomplished many things for school betterment.

Among the things added are a piano, bookcase and books, six comfortable yard benches, map, globe, tinted the walls, added pictures, installed a portable wash basin, furnished sanitary towels, had school wired for electric lights, furnished Christmas treats for children and contributed liberally to the support of the parent-teacher clinic thereby giving a privilege to the children of the school. Meeting the needs of the less fortunate child in the school is also a part of the work.

For some time the active membership was ten; at present they number twenty-five, this due to the size of school as the school has increased the membership likewise.

The Parent-Teacher Association of Donelson is a well-organized factor for good in its school and community. At present they have undertaken some really heavy work in remodeling a portion of the school building.

Recently a Hallowe'en party was given and with wonderfully gratifying results. The money raised on this occasion will be applied to the debt incurred by remodeling.

STATEMENT FROM MRS. CRUTCHER

Responding to invitation from Miss Martha Elkins, teacher of Sparrt School, Mrs. Crutcher has organized an association there with Mrs. Robt. Smartt as president, also at Lenoir City, Church Hill and Kingsport.

At Falkner Spring Mrs. Crutcher addressed the teachers and home-makers in the interest of the congress, also presenting the work at McMinnville.

Mrs. John M. Crist, of Morristown, has been appointed county organizer of Warren county.

WHARTON ASSOCIATION, NASHVILLE

One of the most attractive school lunch rooms is that of Wharton School, operated by the parent-teacher association of which Mrs. Alice Cloyd is president. The lunch room located in the basement has of necessity a wall of stone with concrete floor. The windows, which are high, are banked with beautiful plants throughout the session. The dining and kitchen equipments are splendid. These lunches are prepared for the less fortunate child as well as those who are able and care to patronize it. The teachers are careful that no hungry child goes unfed and the school, situated as it is in the factory district of Nashville, had added to the necessity of maintaining this lunch.

Other relief work is done at Wharton. They contribute to the support of the clinic and rally to every local parent-teacher interest.

The meetings are well attended.

Knoxville was the meeting place of the East Tennessee Division Fair in October. The Parent-Teacher Associations furnished the rest room. Each afternoon a kindergarten demonstration was held in this room. A playground just outside was equipped by the Parent-Teacher Associations and greatly enjoyed by the children. A conference of the members of the Congress in East Tennessee was honored by the presence of the state president, Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, and by Mrs. C. J. St. John, vice-president at large.

The Improvement League of Clinton sent eighteen members a distance of 30 miles to attend the conference. A basket dinner was served to over 200 by the Parent-Teacher Association of Knoxville and vicinity. The president was besieged with invitations to organize new associations, and has already organized in Lenoir City, 47 members—Morristown, Church Hill, Kingsport. The

cry on every hand is "Come over and help us," for there is a great awakening to the importance of the work of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. Mrs. Fred A. Roberts, one of the Tennessee vice-presidents, directed the arrangements for this very successful conference.

TEXAS

The eighth annual Child-Welfare conference of the Texas Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, was held in the First Methodist Church, in Beaumont, Tuesday, October 31.

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT, MRS. F. W. MCALLISTER OF SAN ANTONIO

It has taken centuries since the beginning of things for the world to realize that he who helps a child, helps the world, and that all great social measures of prevention find their center, radii and circumference of social construction in the welfare of the child. Prevention means social construction, and as our work is primarily preventive, it is fundamental. It must, because of its very nature, deal with underlying principles, with causes. It is all-inclusive, embracing the whole range of human thought and activity.

Are we so visionary as to dream that all that is necessary for the well-being of the child, can or will be accomplished in the brief span of one life, of one generation, even of many succeeding generations? Can we hope to better the race without a knowledge of the process of physical growth, without knowledge of that which impedes normal, healthy growth both before and after the child's birth? Can we lessen the hindrances in the well-balanced development of his four-fold nature through instinct alone? Can we help all children without a study of industrial, educational and general social conditions, and is one organization all-sufficient to render the necessary help?

To all these questions, we say: "By no means." We, therefore, select, concentrate and coöperate.

We select child-study and child-welfare as the unvarying themes of our deliberations; we concentrate our practical activities on such child-welfare movements as seem most needful, or for which public sentiment is most propitious; we coöperate with all true social-welfare agencies, whose work is in alinement with our own.

Educational Campaigns Conducted.—During the past two years we conducted active educational campaigns in behalf of better birth registration in Texas.

Thrift.—Thrift and a school savings bank system formed the basis of an interesting and vital campaign, which was greatly facilitated and made effective through a most generous supply of valuable leaflets issued by the American Society for Thrift under the direction of its public spirited, generous president, S. W. Straus of Chicago.

Why Birth Registration.—That the birth, date of birth, parentage and legitimacy may be a matter of official record.

That blindness may be prevented by prompt medical attention.

That the proper enforcement of the compulsory school attendance and of State and National laws affecting child-labor may be enforced.

That the law-abiding employers of youth may be protected.

That the dependent and delinquent child may be treated with justice.

That the settlement of inheritances and estates may be justly made through accurate knowledge of the ages of all concerned.

That prosecutions dealing with the age of consent may be settled by record and not by disputable statements.

That property and personal rights may be protected.

That the American-born children of foreign-born parents may have incontestable evidence of their American birth, which will guard them against enforced military service, should they visit their parents' country.

That the Federal Children's Bureau may be enabled to investigate the deaths of babies under one year as directed by the law under which the bureau was established. Unless births are registered in every state in the union, this investigation can not be made.

That the lives of babies may be saved through city and state boards of health by means of information on the care of infants, sent at once to mothers of children registered.

Texas is still one of the dark states, unrecognized in vital statistics, because of deficient birth-registration.

Within the past two years a great improvement has been brought about, through the State Registrar of Vital Statistics, Dr. W. A. Davis, who assures us that the inquiries addressed to him regarding birth-registration prove that our campaign, begun almost three years ago and kept up uninterruptedly, had no small part in increasing the number of births registered.

Medical Inspection.—Medical inspection or the need for the physical examination of school children formed a prominent program topic of 150 organizations, and in addition the question was again presented at the District Child-Welfare Conferences. A pamphlet from

the United States Public Health Service was extensively used in this campaign.

Texas can boast of but few school physicians and school nurses, but the findings of these few furnish conclusive proof that Texas children do need the health protection of an adequate system of medical inspection. That the rural child needs the measure as much, and more, than the city child, we know from the county sanitary surveys conducted jointly by the state board of health and the state university, with the assistance of the Rockefeller foundation.

Public Kindergartens.—Kindergarten literature was distributed in 325 communities; 114 organizations used "The Educational Value of the Kindergarten," as a program topic during the year, and declared themselves in favor of public kindergartens. Seventy-five organizations contributed to the maintenance of kindergartens in their communities.

The campaign culminated in the drafting of a bill by the Kindergarten Department, under the direction of the state chairman, Mrs. Geo. W. Steere of Ft. Worth. The bill is to be introduced shortly after the convening of the State Legislature in January.

School Questions.—Over 300 leaflets emphasizing the need for more school revenue and explaining House Joint Resolution 30 were sent out. Eighty-five organizations used the compulsory school attendance law and the resolution as a program topic before the end of May, 1915. The exact number acting upon the suggestion to use the topic during September and October, 1916, can not be given, but that more than 25 did so, is positive.

One leading reason why the appeal met with such ready response, is due to the fact that many of our members last year solicited funds in order to give their children the benefit of an eight or nine months' school term. In one very small community, the parent-teacher association raised \$2,000.

Many schools are now filled far beyond their capacity; pupils are using window-sills and make-shifts for desks and the over-crowding will grow worse as the school-term lengthens.

Fathers and all qualified voters, who believe in the value of an intelligent citizenship, who believe that the children of Texas have a right to good schooling, must prove their convictions by voting for House Joint Resolution 30 on November 7.

Extending the Service of the School Into the Community.—Small towns and rural communities everywhere are making a more intensive use of the school-plant, it is being more and more recognized as the logical meeting place of the people; the right place for social gatherings, concerts, dramatic entertainments, any sort of coming-together that

enriches and makes life more enjoyable. School-houses are today being constructed with that end in view and school-trustees in many instances act as guides and directors of the play and frolics of the young.

The school-ground becomes the park, the playground of the people and gratifies the social instinct by affording opportunity for wholesome pleasure and recreation.

Never in the history of our state has the public school and public education received such intelligent and so large a consideration as it does today. Our organizations have had a large, if not the leading part in bringing about a fuller recognition of the schools' importance; its needs and its influence upon the health, moral tone, industry, civic cleanliness and general progressiveness of a community.

The Dependent Child and Mothers' Allowances.—From an intensive study of causes, contributing to child-dependency, conducted by a specially appointed state commission for the purpose of ascertaining whether aid from public funds should be given to widowed or needy mothers, and whether the giving of such aid was an advisable, economic measure, we find that the leading contributory causes to dependency may be summed up in the following: Incapacity of the bread-winner, illness, death, accident, illegitimacy, abandonment and wife desertion.

We find that —

1. Widowhood is the second greatest cause of dependency, the first being the incapacity of the bread-winner.

2. The widowed mother is in peculiar need of adequate assistance and is open to constructive educational endeavors.

3. Public aid to dependent, fatherless children is quite different in theory and effort from "charity" or "out-door relief."

4. The experience of 27 states in the Union, and in the larger countries of Europe, prove that it is possible to administer such aid wisely and efficiently by public officials.

5. The experience elsewhere has shown that such aid is the most economical, as well as the most socially advanced method of caring for dependent children.

We are now engaged in a study of this question in Texas and hope soon to be able to give definite facts, though limited. The investigation is almost insurmountably hampered through the lack of properly kept records of childrens' institutions, child-placing agencies and social-welfare organizations. Further proof of the need of a State Board of Public Welfare with a strong childrens' department.

The detailed reports of the various state chairmen embody the scope of our work, many

phases of which have been eliminated from this already too long message.

The child-welfare work of local organizations in full membership with the Texas and National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, as per reports rendered, for the year ending September 1, 1916, represents an expenditure of \$36,786.41.

We are *paying*, we are *doing*.

VERMONT

The fourth annual conference of the Vermont branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, held in Burlington, October 11-12, was a decided success. It preceded the annual Teachers Conference. The Board of Education and state and county superintendents gave assistance. Mrs. Henry A. Harman, who organized the Vermont branch and has been its able president during the years of its infancy, now feels that the work is in a strong condition, endorsed by press, pulpit and educators, and, expecting to be in the state of Washington all winter, declined to serve longer as president. Mrs. F. G. Swinnerton, of Rutland, was chosen as the new president, and has associated with her ten active, able and interested women as vice-presidents. Miss Lena Ross, of Rutland, is state secretary. In her parting message Mrs. Harman expressed her warm affection for the teachers, the mothers and fathers of Vermont, asking that an humble spirit actuate every member of the Congress and that God may bless its work. The officers elected are Mrs. F. G. Swinnerton, Rutland, Vt., Miss Lena Rose, Secretary, Rutland; Mrs. S. L. Hazard, Treasurer, Fair Haven. Ten vice-presidents and the chairmen of all departments were chosen.

WISCONSIN

The High School at Green Lake has organized a parent-teacher association. Out of the 99 families in the village fifty were represented at the first meeting. A mail box was installed in the schoolhouse, whereby parents may send subjects for discussion at the meetings.

Wisconsin is fast coming to the front in the organization of parent-teacher associations, mothers' and child-welfare circles. There is an interest never before made manifest, in a desire to help, if possible, in the work for the welfare of the child. There are about one hundred organizations in the state, most of them affiliated with the state and national bodies.

At the September meeting of the executive committee of the Wisconsin Branch of the Congress of Mothers, the following suggestions

for a tentative health platform for pupils, introduced by Dr. Ida Schell, chairman of Committee on Child Hygiene, were endorsed. These planks will be printed and distributed by the parent-teacher associations throughout the state. It is believed that by adhering to these simple rules our children may avoid many distressing diseases in the future.

The president of the Wisconsin Branch, Mrs. Edward Hammett, attended a meeting of the national board, held in Chicago on October 10, 11 and 12. An excellent report was given of this meeting and of the work done in other states. Many suggestions were presented which gave an impetus for larger and more effective work in the future.

The West Side Mothers' Club, Milwaukee, at its first meeting of the year, discussed schemes and devices to save labor. Each member, in response to roll call, was requested to give an original device, short and concise, for the saving of labor in the home. The club plans to study food values for children.

The parent-teacher association of the Cass Street School, Milwaukee, is working for better movies for children. It hopes to co-operate in the near future with a well-known movie house, which will make this feature a study. The subject of sensible dress for school children will be discussed at the November meeting, when living models will be shown from the children of the school. At the December meeting books the children should read will be discussed.

The Hawley Road Parent-Teacher Association, Wauwatosa, recently held a harvest party. The hall was profusely decorated with all kinds of products of the farm. All came in farmer costume. A very interesting program of music was given, followed by games and dancing, which fathers and mothers and older children enjoyed. None under fifteen years of age were admitted. Over three hundred were present. This same association plans to form classes in child training, home economics, home decoration and craftsman work, through the Extension Division of the University of Wisconsin.

The annual meeting of the Wisconsin Teachers' Association was held in Milwaukee, November 2, 3 and 4. A parent-teacher section was, for the second time, given a place on the program. The music was by well-known artists of Milwaukee, Mrs. A. E. Mieding and Mrs. Leslie Killam, and papers by Prof. Thos. Lloyd Jones, on "The Service the Parent-Teacher Associations can Render the

School," and by Mrs. Edith Hoyt on "The Twentieth Century Child," both of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, gave many valuable suggestions to the audience, which was more than twice as large as that of a year ago. There was no time for discussion, but many remained after the meeting to interview the officers and learn more about the work of the parent-teacher associations. There were more men present, some of them principals of schools, who were willing and anxious to have associations in their schools. We feel much encouraged at the success of this meeting and predict much for the future.

SOME PLANKS FOR OUR HEALTH PLATFORM FOR STUDENTS

1. Don't hurry—just live.
2. Don't eat in a hurry; don't eat when very tired; don't hurry very much after eating.
3. No baths, vigorous exercise, or study on a full stomach; no sweets, pastries, nor knick-knacks on an empty one.
4. Better to sleep from 9 to 6.30 than from 11 to 8.30.
5. Don't *exercise* to produce strength of body after the *heart* is tired; don't *study* to produce strength of mind after the *brain* is tired.
6. Simple meals of nutritious foods taken regularly and well digested help to produce strength of body; simple programs of intellectual foods studied regularly and well mastered help to produce strength of mind. Desserts are pleasing to the palate but not essential for physical health or strength. "School frills" are attractive, but should be treated as intellectual desserts. Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners often cause *physical* indigestion and produce weakness, not strength. "Cramming for examinations" and "taking many studies" just as often cause *mental* indigestion, though the disturbance is not always so apparent.
7. A healthy body must be kept clean inside and outside. (a) Bathe the skin once a day. (b) Brush the teeth night and morning. (c) Watch the nose, mouth, and lungs to see that they eat no dirty foods, drink no dirty water, and breathe no dirty air. (d) Rinse the tissues with about eight glasses of liquids every twenty-four hours. Water, milk and soups are healthier than tea and coffee, wine and beer, and the iced drinks. (e) Our bodies, like our furnaces, work better and last longer when the ashes are shaken down every morning.

NATIONAL KINDERGARTEN COLLEGE

Box 700, 2944 Michigan Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois

Training in Kindergarten and Elementary Methods. Ideal education for young women. Two year course, diploma. Three and four year advanced courses. Accredited. Resident dormitories on College grounds. Mid-year Term begins Feb. 1; Summer Term, June 19; Fall Term, Sept. 12. Illustrated catalog on request.

Elizabeth Harrison's Books deal with the problems of parents and teachers from a practical standpoint.—Questions, Misunderstanding, Stories, Activities, Punishments, Worship. They are most readable and have many illustrations from actual experience. If you need help in understanding your child, send for a list of these books.

Programs for Mothers' Circles and Parent-Teacher Associations

National Congress of Mothers and Parent Teacher Associations Arranges Program

Provides Valuable Typewritten Papers on Child Nurture and Child Welfare
Gives Program Each Month in Child Welfare Magazine

New List of Loan Papers on Child Nurture
Over a Hundred Topics

Includes Papers by

Dr. G. STANLEY HALL
Dr. EMMETT HOLT
Professor KIRKPATRICK
Miss LUCY WHEELOCK
EDWARD H. GRIGGS

Miss ELIZABETH HARRISON
Dr. M. V. O'SHEA
Hon. BEN B. LINDSEY
Mrs. THEODORE W. BIRNEY
Mrs. FREDERIC SCHOFF

And Many Others

Special Programs for Mothers of Children Under Six
Physical Development Training in Moral Habits

One Paper May be Kept Three Weeks—Twenty Cents
Twelve Papers May be Selected and Kept One Year—\$2.00

Orders should be sent to

National Congress of Mothers and Parent Teacher Associations

910 Loan and Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

Western Positions for Teachers, Principals and Superintendents

Our Special Field

Colorado	Arizona	Idaho
Kansas	California	Nebraska
Montana	Oklahoma	Nevada
New Mexico	Washington	North Dakota
Oregon	Wyoming	South Dakota
Utah		Texas

One Agency that does the work of Many.
The largest and most widely patronized Agency in the West.

Eight page Booklet "Road to Good Positions," Free.
"How to Apply for a School, with Laws of Certification of all the States," free to members. Fifty Cents in stamps to non members.

WM. RUFFER, Pd.M., A.M., Manager

ROCKY MT. TEACHERS
AGENCY, EMPIRE BLDG., DENVER, COLO.

Please mention this MAGAZINE when writing Advertisers

Another Year

ANDREW NORTON

Another Year! another year!
The unceasing rush of time sweeps on;
Whelmed in its surges, disappear
Man's hopes and fears, forever gone!

Oh no! forbear that idle tale,
The hour demands another strain,
Demands high thoughts that cannot quail,
And strength to conquer and retain.

'Tis midnight—from the dark blue sky
The stars which now look down on earth
Have seen ten thousand centuries fly
And given to countless changes birth.

And when the pyramids shall fall
And mouldering mix as dust in air,
The dwellers on this altered ball
May still behold them glorious there.

O what concerns it him, whose way
Lies upward to the immortal dead,
That a few hairs are turning gray,
Or one more year of life has fled!

Swift years, but teach me how to bear,
To feel and act with strength and skill,
To reason wisely, nobly dare,
And speed your courses as ye will.

Press onward thro' each varying hour;
Let no weak fears thy course delay;
Immortal being! feel thy power;
Pursue thy bright and endless way.